

Served as Past President and currently serves as a Board member of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), where she focused on major regional concerns, including the establishment of a multi-modal public transportation system for the Los Angeles area.

Implemented the La Brea Green Belt as a major transportation artery in Los Angeles, as well as providing fire, flood, and landslide abatement.

Led on many environmental issues, including joining the City of San Francisco, calling on residents to turn off lights for an hour to conserve energy; urged the use of paper, rather than plastic bags; and pushed for the observance of America Recycle Day in Los Angeles County.

Spearheaded an effort in the County that resulted in a voluntary program for restaurants to eliminate trans fat.

On behalf of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues, the State of California, and the County of Los Angeles, I want to thank Yvonne Brathwaite Burke for sharing her tremendous gifts with us for so many years. We believe Mrs. Burke is an impeccable inspiration to all young women who aspire to posts of leadership and public service. We offer our sincere gratitude to Mrs. Burke for her countless contributions throughout her phenomenal career. We join with her many co-workers, family, friends, and associates in wishing her health, happiness, and continued good fortune.

#### HONORING LENAPE MIDDLE SCHOOL

#### HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 22, 2008*

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker. I rise today to honor the 50th anniversary of Lenape Middle School in Doylestown, Pennsylvania. This school has a long and notable history of educating Bucks County's youth as well as helping the greater community.

Lenape Middle School began its service to Bucks County when it opened on September 4, 1957. Originally serving all of Central Bucks School District, Lenape Middle School now educates students living in Doylestown, Doylestown Township, and parts of New Britain Township. Despite being the smallest of the Central Bucks School District's middle schools, Lenape Middle School is proudly one of the most diverse schools in the district.

Lenape Middle School is also home to several important scholastic programs. Lenape serves as the regional school for various district special education programs as well as serving as the host school for all English as a Second Language students. In honor of its notable academic work, Lenape Middle School was named a "School to Watch" by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform in April 2007.

In addition, Lenape Middle School boasts distinguished participation in community service and outreach. Lenape is deeply involved in the 40 Assets project. This program seeks to recognize students for making a difference in the lives of one of their peers, teachers, or

neighbors. Also, Lenape students actively participate in various community service organizations such as Ponds for Kids, the Relay for Life, and Recycle 4 Relay Campaign.

Lenape Middle School is an exceptional example of an outstanding academic institution. The outstanding work of both Lenape's students and teachers significantly improves the Bucks County community. Madam Speaker, I am proud to represent Lenape Middle School and grateful for the opportunity to recognize Lenape's 50th anniversary.

#### RECOGNIZING SYDNEY SHRUM

#### HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 22, 2008*

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sydney Shrum on achieving the Girl Scout Gold Award. Receiving the Gold Award is a testament to Miss Shrum's leadership, citizenship, and service to her community.

For her Gold Award project, Sydney Shrum designed and painted a map of the United State of America on the sidewalk of Rockenbaugh Elementary School in Southlake, Texas.

The Girl Scouts of America promotes a positive influence for young women of today. I am honored to represent Sydney Shrum in earning the highest award bestowed in Girl Scouts. I commend her commitment and dedication for the betterment of her life, her community, and her country.

#### A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE HARLEM COMMONWEALTH COUNCIL AS THEY CELEBRATE 41 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE HARLEM COMMUNITY

#### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 22, 2008*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Since 1967, The Harlem Commonwealth Council has been dedicated to empowering the Harlem community through job creation and ownership of local commerce, industry and real estate. From the time of its humble beginnings, they have embarked in a mission to stimulate the overall economic development of Harlem through the creation of enterprises, generation of jobs, and improvement of services; and

Whereas, Today, The Harlem Commonwealth Council has continued to hold firm on its pledge to serve the Harlem community by implementing successful ventures and programs through the years that promote self-sufficiency amongst its citizenry and create stability in Harlem through economic development projects, academic empowerment, and entrepreneurial support; and

Whereas, Harlem Commonwealth Council has the distinction of having made historically significant contributions to its vibrant multicultural community in many instances without the financial support of governmental agencies or outside entities. Through a team of Harlem

professionals, community and business leaders, it continues to engineer new initiatives that will foster and sustain economic prosperity to Harlem's residents and businesses; and

Whereas, Leading the way towards the future of the Harlem Commonwealth Council is none other than the distinguished Harlem veterinarian Dr. Joseph L. Tait. While pursuing Veterinary goals, he became a Director in the Commonwealth Holding Company, Inc. Board. Through hard work and perseverance he gained the confidence of his peers who elevated him to the position of Chairman of The Council and ultimately the President and CEO. As President, Dr. Tait has shifted the focus to include reaching out to the young people of our community to offer opportunities for growth professionally and educationally; and

Whereas, As the Harlem Commonwealth Council celebrates forty-one years of service to the Harlem community, it is important to note that when the world had given up on Harlem and urban communities like it nationwide, HCC and other community based organizations, business owners and residents did not. They continue to serve as a shining example of what people can accomplish when they are dedicated to a vision and work together to realize it; and

Resolved, That along with all the residents in the 15th Congressional District of New York, I congratulate The Harlem Commonwealth Council on their forty-first anniversary. Through their unwavering efforts to secure the future of the Harlem community, The Harlem Commonwealth Council has contributed to the effervescent Harlem of today.

#### TRIBUTE TO ANZELLA K. NELMS

#### HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 22, 2008*

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me as I rise to recognize and honor a dedicated public servant, Anzella K. Nelms who is retiring from the position of State District Deputy Superintendent of the Newark Public Schools. Ms. Nelms' journey to this post encompassed many levels including classroom teacher, vice principal and principal. As a result of these experiences. Ms. Nelms was definitely in a position to make a difference in the lives of our most precious resources, our children.

An accomplished student herself, having attended school in her native Raleigh, North Carolina, Anzella Nelms sought to ensure that Newark's school children received a quality education. Her dramatic influence can be seen at Camden Middle School where she served as principal from 1979 to 1989 and helped to develop a national model for school effectiveness. It can also be seen in the 16 "Theme Schools" she began within her School Leadership Team while serving as Assistant Superintendent. Fortunately, for those who had the opportunity to work with her, Ms. Nelms was generous with sharing her knowledge and her significant leadership skills.